

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

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*Ex parte* PETER J. ANSLOW & RICHARD W. HEATH

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Appeal 2008-3492  
Application 09/973,650  
Technology Center 2613

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Mailed: October 24, 2008

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Before DALE M. SHAW, *Chief Appeals Administrator*  
SHAW, *Chief Appeals Administrator*.

ORDER REMANDING APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was electronically received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on April 15, 2008. A docketing notice was mailed and Appeal No. 2008-3492 was assigned on May 20, 2008. A review of the application has revealed that the application was not ready for an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being remanded to the Examiner. The matter requiring attention is identified below.

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Claims 1, 6, and 8 of the instant application are set forth as method claims that may not fall with one of the four statutory categories of invention recited in 35 U.S.C. § 101. On May 15, 2008 the Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examining Policy, John J. Love, issued a memorandum entitled "Clarification of "Processes" under 35 U.S.C. § 101." This memorandum is further used in conjunction with the Interim Guidelines and the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure § 2106.IV.B, when determining whether a claimed invention falls within a statutory category of invention. There is a question as to whether claims 1, 6, and 8 meet the requirements of being a patent eligible process under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is remanded to the Examiner to determine if claims 1, 6, and 8 meet the requirements of being a patent eligible process under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

If there are any questions pertaining to this order, please contact the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences at 571-272-9797.

DMS

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